

22a North Nashville Ave.
Ventnor, N.J. 08406
April 5, 1969

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Hyattstown
Maryland

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

For some time I have been deeply disturbed by the seemingly endless controversy which has followed the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and, more recently, the murders of Senator Robert Kennedy and Doctor Martin Luther King. It is frightening, of course, to know that a United States President, a United States Senator, and a respected civic leader can be so cruelly shot down and destroyed. It is no less terrifying to realize that other national leaders may in time suffer a similar fate. Yet, I believe my principal concern is for the American people and the damage being done to them by the lasting confusion. The absurd charge that we are all to blame, that we are a sick society, is making the nation uncertain of itself. It is depressing to pick up a newspaper and learn that a reader is "ashamed to be an American."

I believe the real need is for one book that presents all the known facts, objectively and comprehensively, in strict chronological order, without undue speculation and free of distortion; a book that examines the evidence point by point, with both ends of the controversy presented side by side, so that the reader can determine for himself or herself what the facts really are. I would like to write that book. In one chapter dealing with the evidence and the issues, I want to present the arguments of the Warren Commission and the critics side by side as each point of dispute is discussed. In one sense, the Commission and the critics would be debating the case in this chapter.

I am fully aware that I may not be able to obtain the amount of cooperation needed to make this book possible. It is too soon to say. For that reason, this letter does not constitute a formal request for an interview; the book may never be written. I have had encouragement from Arlen Specter and District Attorney Henry Wade. Both men have agreed to see me.

At this time, I ask only if you would consider talking to me if I am able to secure the cooperation necessary to do the job properly. Would you please advise me as to how you feel about my intentions and if you would agree to an interview if my plans should materialize?

Very truly yours,

Frank E. Chatelanat
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